

Parganas and Kamala River, Darbhanga District; Bihar and Rihand River, Vindhya Pradesh.

**Doryichthys deocata** (Hamilton)

1822. *Syngnathus deocata* Hamilton, Fish. Ganges, pp. 114, 363.

1877. *Doryichthys deocata* Day, Fish. India, P. 680.

The only specimen under report was caught in streamlets of Tangla, Darrang Dist.

Day recorded the species from Bengal and Bihar.

ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA,  
CALCUTTA,  
December 29, 1955.

K. L. SEHGAL.

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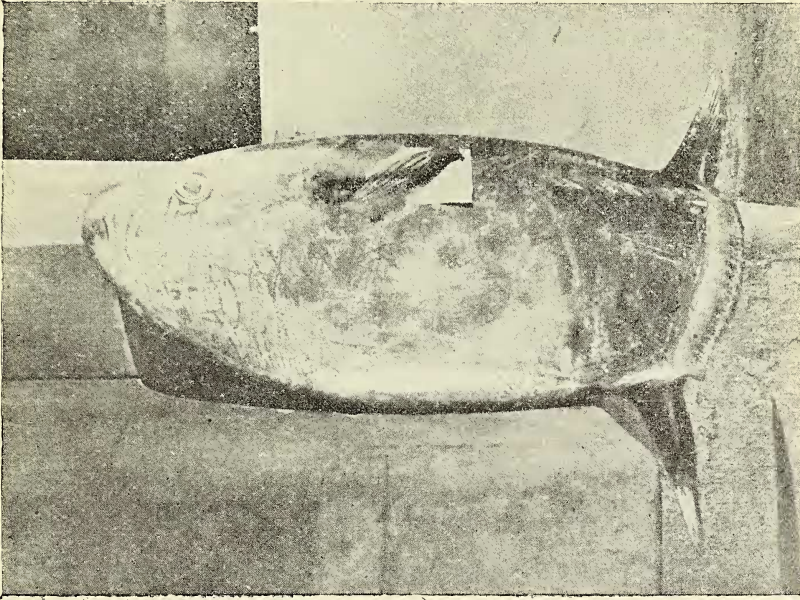
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24. A RECORD OF THE SUN-FISH, *RANZANIA TRUNCATA* (RETZIUS) NEAR BEYPORE, MALABAR COAST

(With a photo)

On 14 February 1956 one female specimen of *Ranzania truncata* was captured by the local fishermen from the shallow waters near Beypore, seven miles south of Calicut. It showed all the typical characters of the species, such as oblong body twice as long as deep, smooth and tessellated skin and truncate caudal. The fish measured 61 cm. in length and 30 cm. in width. The dorsal fin was 17 cm. high and 6.5 cm. at base; and had 17 rays. Anal was 15 cm. long and 6 cm. at base; and had 18 rays. Pectoral was 10.5 cm. high and 3 cm. at base; and had 13 rays. Eyes were 3.5 cm. in diameter. Skin was 1 cm. thick. Mouth-opening was terminal, oval in shape and 3.5 × 1.5 cm. in size. Alimentary tract was a straight tube 115 cm. in length, and contained digested mucilaginous matter. Ovary was single-lobed, 22 × 6.5 cm. in size and 220 grams in weight; and contained 14 lakhs eggs.

This is a new record of this oceanic fish in this coastal area. It is probable that the fish had followed one of the ocean-going vessels



that frequently call at Beypore port and then drifted towards the shore. The specimen is kept in the museum of the Marine Biological Station, West Hill.

MARINE BIOLOGICAL STATION,  
WEST HILL, MALABAR,  
February 24, 1956.

P. I. CHACKO  
M. J. MATHEW

[Occurrence of members of the family Mollidae along the coast of India is rare. From Bombay, a specimen of *Masturus lanceolatus* was recorded for the first time by Dr. Kulkarni (*JBNHS*, 51: 940, 1953). The present record of the Sun fish, *Ranzania truncata*, from the Malabar Coast near Beypore, appears to be the second record of its occurrence on the West Coast of India.—Eds.]

25. OCCURRENCE OF THE COPEPOD PARASITE *LERNEA ELEGANS* ON *OPHICEPHALUS STRIATUS* FISH FRY IN MYSORE

A bath of 580 *Ophicephalus striatus* fish fry of 1" size were collected on 7-6-1949 in the Palar River below the Ramasagara tank. The fry were transferred to a nursery pond in the Markandeya Fish Farm in Kolar district. On 11-7-1949, 100 fish fry from this batch were collected to record their growth in length and weight. While